

Peter Burkhardt Farm (Tract #12650)  
Route EE, 2 miles east of its intersection with  
Routes 13 and 52  
Clinton Vicinity  
Henry County  
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1228

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. MO-1228

## PETER BURKHART FARM (Tract #12650)

Location: Route EE, 2 miles east of its intersection with Routes 13 and 52, approximately 4 miles southeast of Clinton, Clinton Vicinity, Henry County, Missouri.

USGS Gaines Quadrangle, UTM 15.435360.4239950.

Present Owner: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District

Present Use: Vacant

Significance: The Peter Burkhardt House is a fine example of a two story "T" plan house, built in the early twentieth century by a prosperous farmer.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

## A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: 1912.
2. Architect: Not known.
3. Original and subsequent owners: NW 1/4 NW 1/4 NW 1/4 Section 31 Township 41 N Range 25W. Sipes to Peter Burkhardt, July 31, 1911 (198:544) for \$18,600; to William Glasscock, February 23, 1920 (232:13) for \$25,575; to Roy Schmidt, January 4, 1927 (256:625).
4. Builder or contractor, suppliers: Leo Beard was the master carpenter; Charley Ahrendt did the interior (Schmidt).
5. Original plan and construction: A large, two-story T plan with unusual placement of the entrance in the stem of the T. Also exceptional for the area is the detailing of the exterior decoration. The pantry (southeast room at the south end of the original screen porch) had the first sink and pitcher pump in the New Harmony neighborhood (Schmidt).
6. Alterations and additions: The rear (east) porch, which extended between the pantry and the top of the T, was enclosed for use as utility (south) and bath (north) rooms, probably in the 1940s.

B. Historical events and persons:

Peter Burkhardt was born in Noble County, Ohio, in September, 1861, of German ancestry. He moved to Kansas in 1886 and came to Henry County in 1912. The improvements he made on his farm are superior to those found elsewhere in the survey area.

C. Sources of Information:

1. Primary and unpublished sources: Deed books 198:544, 232:13, 256:625 in the Registry of Deeds, Henry County Courthouse, Clinton.
2. Interview: August 25, 1977; Mrs. Roy (Cecile) Schmidt, 703 Willow Clinton, Missouri. Lived on the farm from 1927 to 1977.
3. Secondary sources: Hammar, Conrad H. "Factors Affecting Farm Land Values in Missouri." University of Missouri College of Agriculture. Agricultural Research Bulletin, No. 229, September 1935. Pp 46-47, on the question of "Germanic" farming methods and quality of improvements.  
Clinton Eye. February 4, 1937: Peter Burkhardt obituary.

Prepared by: Paul Garfield Weed  
Historian  
Historic American Buildings  
Survey  
Summer, 1977

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: Good example of an early twentieth century prosperous farmhouse. The two-story T-plan house is entered through the porch on the stem of the T rather than through the head of the T. Tuscan columns, a thin dentil course, shingles and sawn gable decoration make this a more elaborate house than most in this survey.
2. Condition: Good; house was only recently vacated.

B. Description of exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: This two-story, T-plan house has a four-bay front measuring 44'-4" by 32'-4" deep.
2. Foundation: Stone faced concrete block and sandstone perimeter beams, 2' high.
3. Wall construction: White horizontal wood siding over balloon frame. A wooden "belt course" marks the second floor level. The corner boards have thin cyma recta moldings at the top as a capital. There are shingles in an imbricated pattern in the gables.
4. Structural system: Balloon framing supported on a masonry foundation.
5. Porches: The wooden porch in front, which fills in the west side of the stem of the T, has wooden Tuscan columns supporting a roof that is curved at the south end to meet the main body of the house. The floor has 3 1/4" wide boards and the ceiling is covered in grooved wooden boards. The rear stoop has three concrete steps.
6. Chimneys: There are two interior brick stove chimneys. One is near the ridge intersection on the northwest wing, and the other is on the ridge at the center of the south wing. Flues served stoves on both floors. The chimneys are topped with metal caps.

7. Openings: The window and door frames are topped by zig-zag and swallow-tail profiled sawn ornaments over the lintels with cyma recta moldings as a cornice. There are two door types. The first has a large square glass panel at the top with square moldings immediately above and below the glass panel. The molding below the panel has a row of square dentils directly beneath it and three square panels beneath that, with two horizontal rectangular panels below these. The second door type has a large rectangular glass panel in the upper part of the door above three horizontal rectangular panels. The doors have bottom hinged glass transoms. The windows have one-over-one-pane double hung wood sashes, with aluminum storm windows recently installed.
8. Roof: The gable roof is covered with white asphalt shingles over wood shingles. The cornice has paired sawn board brackets at corners, with a row of thin dentils between. Wood shingles set in an imbricated pattern fill the gables, and there is a jigsawn ornament in the form of a spoked tie beam in the peak of the gable.

C. Description of Interior:

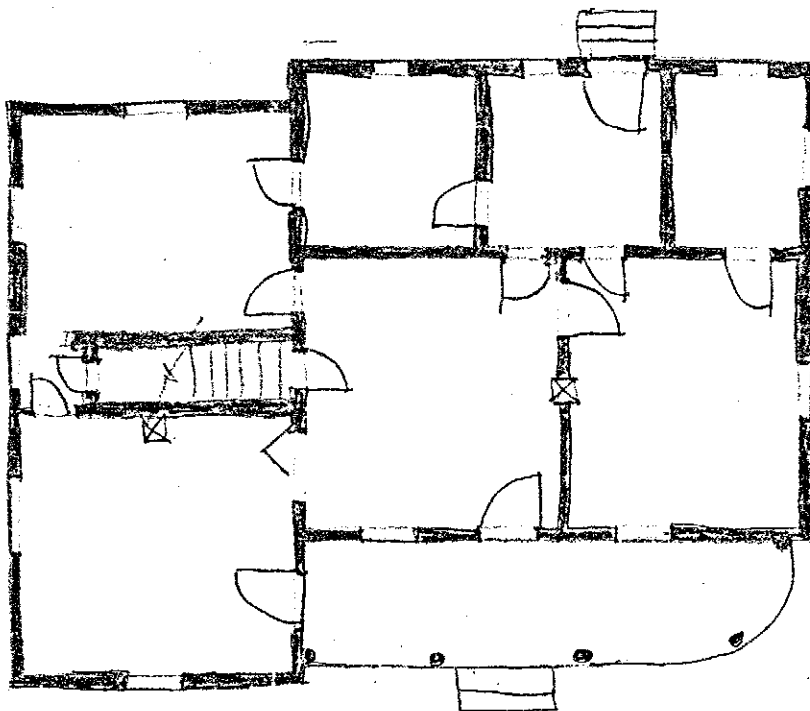
1. Floor plans:
  - a. First floor: The house is arranged in arranged in a T plan, but is entered through the side of the T rather than through the head. There are two rooms in the head of the T, two in the stem. The east side of the T, once a porch, has been enclosed and divided into three small utility rooms.
  - b. Second floor: The rooms on the second floor are directly above the four main rooms of the first floor. A central north-south hallway provides access to the bedrooms.
2. Stairway: The stairway in the middle of the head of the T is concealed behind a door off of the central downstairs room and enclosed by walls on both sides. The stairway is a straight run. The heavy handrail is supported by turned spindle vertical members, with a stepped pyramidal newel post at the top of the stairs.
3. Flooring: The floor is 3 1/4" wide boards. There is a carpet in the north rooms downstairs.

4. Wall and ceiling finish: Wallpaper over plaster on wood lath.
5. Openings: Interior door frames are 4 1/2" wide pine boards with eased (rounded) edges. The lintels above the doors are topped by cyma recta moldings, some with egg and dart moldings. The doors have four vertical rectangular panels, two longer panels above two shorter panels. The door to the northwest corner room first floor, which was probably a fancy parlor, has two leaves, each with four panels, hinged at the center.
6. Decorative features and trim: The baseboards are 10 1/2" high with protruding beveled tops.

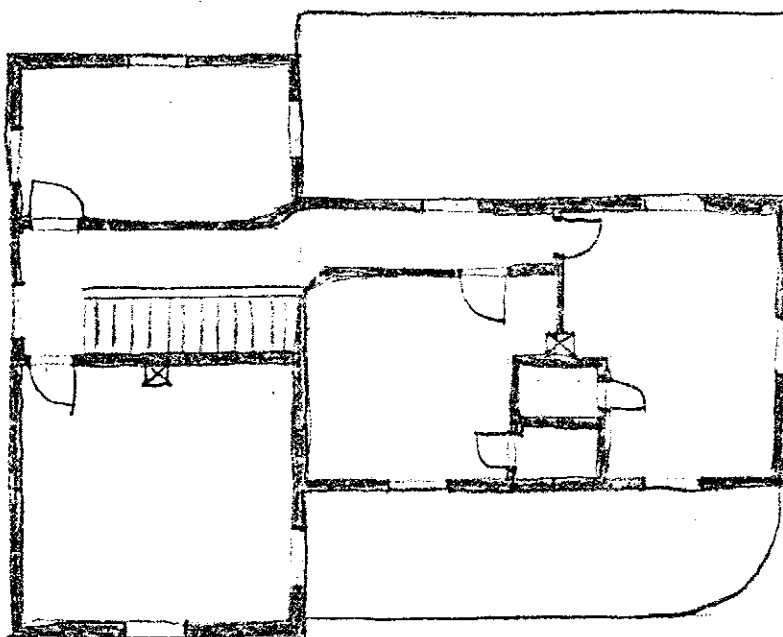
D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The house faces west to a gravel county road running north-south in front of the house. The drive from the road passes on the south side of the house and continues east beyond the house to the barn. Trees and a garden are planted in front of the house. The field surrounding the house must have been a yard originally.
2. Outbuildings: An 18' wide x 12'2" deep smokehouse/root cellar behind the house has a stone-faced concrete block foundation supporting a balloon frame covered with white horizontal wood siding. There is corrugated sheet metal on the gable roof. On the interior, there is a brick stove chimney at the east gable end. There is a concrete lined root cellar below. A three-aisle barn with rain hood has board and batten wood siding over a heavy timber frame.

Prepared by: William Brookover  
Project Supervisor  
Historic American Buildings  
Survey  
Summer 1977

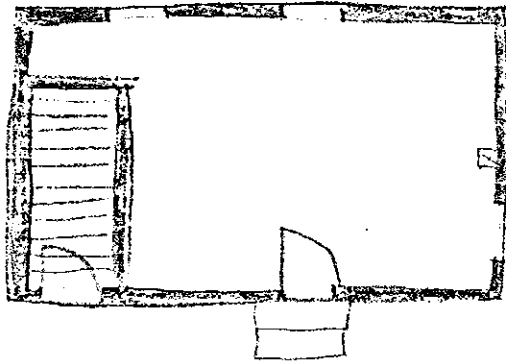


FIRST FLOOR PLAN BURKHART HOUSE #12650

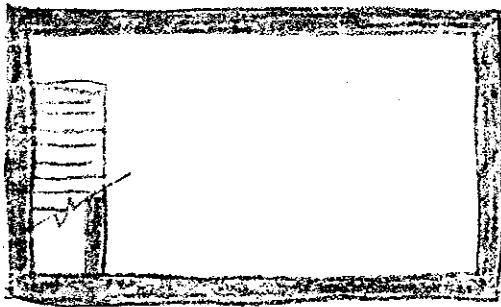


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SECOND FLOOR PLAN BURKHART HOUSE #12650



FIRST FLOOR PLAN BURKHART SMOKEHOUSE  
#12650



CELLAR PLAN BURKHART SMOKEHOUSE  
#12650



PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

The Truman Reservoir Project was funded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District, in compliance with Executive Order 11593 as a mitigative effort in the construction of the Harry S. Truman Dam and Reservoir, in the summer of 1977. William Brookover (Columbia University), supervisor; Michael Connor (University of Virginia), team foreman; Gary Baker (Catholic University), Edwin Daniel (Mississippi State), and Gary Statkus (University of Illinois), student architects; Paul Weed (Columbia University), architectural historian.